

JULY 19, 2012

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: CAMPBELL, WARRUM, STRAW, and WALKER along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Nathan Maudlin.

The following visitors were present: Andy Weintraut, Jim & Gail Norton, Pam Robinson, Vicki Campbell, Barb & Mick McConnell, David Flanders, Johnathon Scott, Jim Stinson, Greg Oeth, Ed Adams, Jeanne Maudlin, Carlene & David VanLaningham, Bobby Grider, and Scott Champlin.

Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular and special meetings be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Park Board President Jeanne Maudlin announced the chili cook-off will be held October 20. Sign-up forms for those wishing to participate will be available at the next Council meeting.

Councilman Walker reported quotes are being submitted to repair the blowers at the wastewater treatment plant.

Andy Weintraut, with Schultheis Insurance, reviewed insurance options for the New Harmony School building. To insure the building at \$7,000,000., the premium would be \$13,731. per year, which is considered replacement cost coverage. To insure the building at actual cash value, \$2,000,000., the premium would be \$10,400. per year. President Campbell asked if increasing the deductible would have a significant impact on the premium. Mr. Weintraut stated it would lower it but not as much as you would expect. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion the school building be insured for \$7,000,000. for an annual premium of \$13,731. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Weintraut agreed to obtain quotes on raising the deductibles for all the Town property to either \$1,000. or \$2,500. The Town currently has a \$500. deductible.

Jim Stinson spoke to Council about the bridge closure and how to increase traffic in New Harmony. He reviewed some of the searches that are done through Google. Mr. Stinson reported the Business Associates are working on getting Google updated with the bridge closure. Mr. Stinson has looked into signage installed by the IN Dept of Transportation. He believes they will be installing a few more of the "brown" signs, which promote state sites. There are "blue" signs available to promote attractions. There is, however, a fee for these "blue" signs. Mr. Stinson estimates an initial cost of \$1,750. to \$2,200. per attraction, plus a monthly fee of \$171. He stated the Business Associates is in the process of renewing their billboard lease at an estimated cost of \$5,000. to \$6,000. Mr. Stinson commented he would like to see the "blue" signage in addition to the billboard. The Business Associates is looking into partnering with a business or individual to share the cost of the "blue" signage.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins announced the Town is hosting an IACT roundtable on July 31. She asked that Council members notify her no later than July 23 if they plan to attend.

Carlene VanLaningham asked for an update on the nuisance properties. Town Marshal Champlin reported he has talked to all the property owners, and he has heard some hard luck stories, some have asked for more time, some cars and items have been moved and cleaned up. He will continue to monitor the progress. President Campbell stated progress is being made but it is never as fast as you would want. Mrs. VanLaningham stated she has seen some improvement, but one resident has put more junk out. President Campbell stated the residents were all given ten days to abate the nuisance, after which the Town can clean it up and place a lien on the property for the costs.

President Campbell presented Ordinance 2012-8. This ordinance establishes a fund entitled New Harmony School Building Fund. Councilman Straw made and Warrum seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-8 be read in title only. All were in favor. Motion carried. President Campbell read Ordinance 2012-8 in title only. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-8 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Campbell appointed Jim Spann, Monteen Elliott, and David Flanders to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Warrum made and Straw seconded a motion that the price of chat be increased to \$35/ton, and the price of sand be increased to \$25/ton. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Straw made and Warrum seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

David Campbell, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer